Expenditure on Planning Commission

6917. Shri Ram Kishan Gupta: Shri Onkar Lal Berwa: Shri Meetha Lal:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is steady increase in the expenditure on the Planning Commission; and

(b) if so, steps taken or proposed to be taken to reduce the expenditure?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) and (b). Yes. The growth of expenditure in the Planning Commission was reviewed by the Public Accounts Committee in their 68th Report (para 5.54).

The administrative and housekeeping Divisions of the Planning Commission have recently been subjected to a thorough and detailed study by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance and in the light of their recommendations, 45 posts in officer and ministerial grades have been abolished.

The budget of the Planning Commission has been reviewed in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and a reduction in expenditure is being brought about in conformity with the reduced budget provision indicated by them.

The Administrative Reforms Commission are looking into the staffing pattern, areas of duplication of work, staff strength and composition in the light of the functions of the Planning Commission. Further action on the reorientation and re-organisation of the technical and administrative wings of the Commission will be considered after the decisions on the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission are available.

Advances by Banks Against Foodgrains

6918. Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Shri R. Barua:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the

Reserve Bank of India has put new curbs on bank advances against paddy and rice to parties other than State Governments, the Food Corporation of India and its procurement agents to the Co-operative marketing and processing societies; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof and how far these have proved helpful to the growers?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Under the Reserve Bank's directive dated 13th April, 1967, the ceiling credit limits available to banks for advances against paddy and rice, to parties other than the State Governments, the Food Corporation of India and its agents and the co-operative marketing and/or processing societies, has been lowered in the case of all States taken together, excluding Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. from 100 per cent to 65 per cent of the actual average aggregate levels of advances maintained in the corresponding two-month period during 1964-65. For Andhra Pradesh the limit has been lowered from 75 per cent to 55 per cent and in the case of Maharashtra there has been no change in the earlier limit of 50 per cent.

(b) The credit control is aimed at preventing any speculative hoarding of stocks of paddy and rice with the help of bank finance and does not affect growers who are not engaged in such activity.

> दिल्ली में भूमि कं। कॅ।मत 6919. श्री स॰ च॰ सामन्त : श्री झ॰ ना॰ माइती : श्री यशपाल सिंह : श्री प्र॰ कु॰ किस्कू : श्री त्रिदिब कुमार चौथरी : श्री त्रिदिब कुमार चौथरी :

क्या निर्माण, ग्नावास तथा पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा किसी ऐसी